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Congressional Record S. 5740-42 - Strategic Arms Limitations

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Mr. MATHIAS. Mr. President, at this time I should like to submit for the Record a letter written by several Senators to the Secretary of State, Dr. Henry A. Kissinger. I think it is notable that the leadership has joined in signing the letter. It is signed by the majority leader, Senator MANSFIELD; by the minority leader, Senator HUGH SCOTT; and also by the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. MONDALE) and myself.

The purpose of the letter is to affirm the support within the Senate for the positions that have been taken by the Secretary of State. There are other

means of support within the Senate for this general policy.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HASKELL), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HUGHES), the Senator from Washington (Mr. MAGNUSON), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. MONTOYA), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. METZENBAUM), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. PELL) be added as additional cosponsors of Senate Resolution 283.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MATHIAS. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the text of Senate Resolution 283 be printed at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the items were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, D.C., April 10, 1974.

HON. HENRY A. KISSINGER,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: There is concern among many of our colleagues over recent reports which assert that during your discussions upon strategic arms limitations in Moscow, the leadership of the Soviet Union may have come to believe that internal issues in the United States might somehow lead the United States to accept an unfair agreement. Such a conclusion by the Soviet Union would be unwarranted, and their leadership should be so informed.

We believe that the Senate Congress, and people of the United States support overwhelmingly the efforts made thus far by the United States government to control the strategic nuclear arms race. We believe that the American people support a continued effort to further control strategic nuclear weapons through equitable and enforceable strategic nuclear arms limitation and reduction agreements which fairly take into account differences between strategic nuclear arsenals of the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Such agreements would contribute to our national security by enhancing stability and reducing the risks of nuclear war.

It is our view that you will continue to have the full support of the Congress in your negotiations with the Soviet Union to achieve such agreements. This is an overriding national objective and the Soviet Union should be informed that it is one which is strongly supported by the Congress and the people of the United States.

In this regard, we hope that you in your capacity as Secretary of State will communicate to the leadership of the Soviet Union the view, which we believe is held by the majority of our colleagues, that the long range importance of the strategic arms limitation negotiations for both countries should transcend any present domestic difficulties.

Thus, it remains our view that the Congress and the American people remain willing to support good faith negotiations leading to strategic arms limitations and reductions between the Soviet Union and the United States. However, it is also our view that you should make every effort to advise the Soviet Union that it should not miscalculate the determination of the Congress and the American people to achieve sound and equitable strategic arms limitations and reductions agreements that contribute to our vital national security interests; and that should these important and hopeful negotiations fail to reach such an agreement, the Congress and the people will take whatever steps are necessary to protect our national security.

In sum, you may be confident that the Congress will continue to support your efforts to achieve equitable treaties and agreements limiting and reducing strategic nuclear weapons within the context of a secure strategic capability to protect our national security interests.

We would like the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss this very important question.

Sincerely yours,

S. RES. 283

Resolution relating to further arms limitation and reduction treaties and agreements between the United States and the Soviet Union

Whereas the treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic-missile systems and the interim agreement no certain offensive weapons systems, concluded between the United States and the Soviet Union on May 26, 1972, strengthened the security of the United States by setting limits on particular categories of nuclear weapons systems; and

Whereas the first round of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) began to constructive dialog between the two nations which could lead to further nuclear arms limitations through mutually agreed upon reductions of existing nuclear weapons systems; and

Whereas the nuclear arms race, despite the positive achievements of the treaty and interim agreement signed on May 26, 1972, has continued its costly and dangerous course in areas not covered by such treaty and interim agreement; and

Whereas research, development, testing, and deployment of more advanced nuclear weapons systems continue at a rising level of expenditures by both the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and

Whereas such further efforts and expenditures for research, development, testing, and deployment of advanced nuclear weapons systems could undermine the nuclear deterrent now possessed by both the United States and the Soviet Union and weaken the mutual confidence of both nations in their ability to prevent nuclear war; and

Whereas the negotiations now underway in Geneva in connection with the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) still offer the best opportunity to conclude further treaties and agreements which would lessen the possibility of any nuclear war and reduce the costly and dangerous burden of armaments borne by the United States, and the Soviet Union; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is hereby declared to be the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and their advisers should (a) give the highest priority to concerted efforts to achieve treaties and agreements which will halt the nuclear arms race through reductions of existing weapons stocks on a mutually agreed upon basis of overall equality; and (b) take such additional steps as might be necessary to lessen the probability of nuclear holocaust;

(2) concerted efforts should be made to achieve restraint on the part of both the Soviet Union and the United States during the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks now in progress with regard to further expenditures for research, development, testing, and deployment of all nuclear weapons systems;

(3) inequalities that may now exist in the respective nuclear weapons systems of both the United States and the Soviet Union should be eliminated through mutually agreed upon reductions of existing nuclear weapons systems;

(4) a mutually agreed upon equality of the deterrent forces of the two countries will necessarily involve an overall balance in their

respective forces taking into account the following elements, among others:

(A) quantitative factors of nuclear weapons systems such as numbers of launchers, amounts of megatonnage, and numbers of deliverable warheads;

(B) qualitative differences between nuclear weapons systems such as reliability, accuracy, reload capability, survivability, maneuverability of warheads and range; and

(C) geographical factors bearing on the effectiveness of nuclear weapons systems.

SEC. 2. It is further declared to be the sense of the Senate that the President of the United States and the Secretary of State should, and are hereby urged and requested to, (a) maintain regular and full consultation with the appropriate committees of the Congress and (b) report to the Congress and the Nation at regular intervals on the progress toward further arms limitations and reductions within the context of an assured deterrent which is the basis of our national security.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Senate is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Secretary of State.

Mr. MATHIAS. Mr. President, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On whose time does the Senator request that the quorum call be had?

Mr. MATHIAS. On my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, will the distinguished Senator from Maryland yield his remaining time to me?

Mr. MATHIAS. Mr. President, I am happy to yield to the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I yield myself not to exceed 5 minutes of the time of the distinguished assistant majority leader (Mr. ROBERT C. BYRD).

Mr. President, I wish to express, once again, my gratitude to the distinguished Senator from Maryland for making the statement which he has made this morning. It was brief and to the point, and encompasses the whole concept which I should like to emphasize again. It cannot be said too often:

While there is some argument about the exact number of times the U.S. can destroy the Soviet Union, the rough figure is 50 times over. The Soviet Union's capability is estimated to be somewhat less, but no one disagrees that it is more than enough.

Mr. President, it is far more than enough; and we are steadily increasing our nuclear stockpile of atomic weapons. I would hope that that would be kept in mind, not only by Members of Congress, but by the American people and also, most important, the executive branch of the Government—the executive branch in all areas. I would hope that the success which has been achieved and the progress being made in SALT I, and the progress being made in SALT II—and progress is being made—under the leadership of Secretary of State Kissinger would be continued. I would hope that what we would see would not be

merely a limitation, but a reduction in arms in both countries, to the end that the mad momentum of appropriations and expenditures for potentially destructive purposes could be turned around, and that the appropriations and expenditures would be used for the benefit and welfare of the peoples of both countries.

So Secretary Kissinger has our good wishes.

I again commend the distinguished Senator from Maryland (Mr. MATHIAS) for taking the lead, as he has so often done, in this field as well as others, and hope that what he has said will have some effect, because, as the Senator has said, let no nation make the mistake that its national goal is affected by any present domestic difficulties.
